

### REMARKS

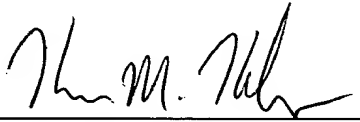
Claims 1-44 are currently pending. Claims 1-22 stand allowed, while claims 23-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Sigler et al. (5,717,830). Applicants submit herewith a declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, indicating that the Applicants invented the subject matter of the present patent application in this country prior to the priority date of Sigler et al., which is believed to be September 19, 1995.

### CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the presently outstanding rejections. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

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